

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
PROPOSED AMENDED REGULATORY LANGUAGE
Title 16, Division 39, California Code of Regulations

Proposed amendments are shown by strikeout for deleted text and underline for new text.

Article 7. Continuing Competency Requirements

§ 4161. Continuing Competency

(a) Effective January 1, 2006, each occupational therapy practitioner renewing a license or certificate under Section 2570.10 of the Code shall submit evidence of meeting continuing competency requirements by having completed, during the preceding renewal period, twelve (12) PDUs for each twelve month period, acquired through participation in professional development activities.

(1) Fifty (50) minutes of participation in a professional development activity qualifies for one PDU;

(2) One (1) academic credit equals 10 PDUs;

(3) One (1) Continuing Education Unit (CEU) equals 10 PDUs.

(b) Professional development activities acceptable to the board include, but are not limited to, programs or activities sponsored by the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) or the Occupational Therapy Association of California; post-professional coursework completed through any approved or accredited educational institution that is not part of a course of study leading to an academic degree; or otherwise meet all of the following criteria:

(1) The program or activity contributes directly to professional knowledge, skill, and ability;

(2) The program or activity relates directly to the practice of occupational therapy; and

(3) The program or activity must be objectively measurable in terms of the hours involved.

(c) PDUs may also be obtained through any or a combination of the following:

(1) Involvement in structured special interest or study groups with a minimum of three (3) participants. Three (3) hours of participation equals one (1) PDU.

(2) Structured mentoring with an individual skilled in a particular area. For each 20 hours of being mentored, the practitioner will receive three (3) PDUs.

(3) Structured mentoring of a colleague to improve his/her skills. Twenty (20) hours of mentoring equals three (3) PDUs.

(4) Supervising the fieldwork of Level II occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant students. For each 240 hours of supervision, the practitioner will receive two (2) PDUs.

(5) Publication of an article in a non-peer reviewed publication. Each article equals five (5) PDUs.

(6) Publication of an article in a peer-reviewed professional publication. Each article equals 10 PDUs.

(7) Publication of chapter(s) in occupational therapy or related professional textbook. Each chapter equals 10 PDUs.

(8) Making first time professional presentations at workshops, seminars and conferences. For each hour, the practitioner will receive two (2) PDUs.

(d) Partial credit will not be given for the professional development activities listed in subsection (c).

(e) This section shall not apply to the first license or certificate renewal following issuance of the initial license or certificate.

(f) Of the total number of PDUs required for each renewal period, a minimum of one half of the units must be directly related to the delivery of occupational therapy services.

(1) The delivery of occupational therapy services may include: models, theories or frameworks that relate to client/patient care in preventing or minimizing impairment, enabling function within the person/environment or community context. Other activities may include, but are not limited to, occupation based theory assessment/interview techniques, intervention strategies, and community/environment as related to one's practice.

(g) Applicants completing continuing competency in accordance with Business and Professions Code section 2570.14(a) in order to qualify for licensure/certification shall submit evidence of meeting the continuing competency requirements by having completed, during the two year period immediately preceding the date the application was received, forty (40) PDUs per section 4161(b). The forty PDUs shall include:

(1) Thirty-seven (37) PDUs directly related to the delivery of occupational therapy services;

(2) One (1) PDU related to occupational therapy scope of practice;

(3) One (1) PDU related to occupational therapy framework;

(4) One (1) PDU related to ethics.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 2570.10 and 2570.20, Business and Professions Code.

Reference: Section 2570.10, Business and Professions Code.